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Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

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Docket No.: 09852/0202258-US0

The requirement for concise explanation of relevance of Citation Nos. BA - BG is satisfied by the attached English language copy of a Search Report from a foreign patent office, issued in a counterpart application.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency of up to \$300.00 or credit any excess in this fee to Deposit Account No. 04-0100.

Dated: December 22, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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2 Rec'd PCT/PTO 22 DEC 2004

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	Not Yet Assigned
				Filing Date	Concurrently Herewith
				First Named Inventor	Hidemitsu Takaoka
				Art Unit	N/A
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	09852/0202258-USO

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
	BA	JP-9-323205	12-16-1997	Hitachi Tool Engineering Ltd.		
	BB	JP-7-97679	04-11-1995	Sumitomo Electric Industries, Ltd.		
	BC	JP-11-216601	08-10-1999	OSG Corp.		
	BD	JP-2000-334606	12-05-2000	Hitachi Tool Engineering Ltd.		
	BE	JP-2000-334607	12-05-2000	Hitachi Tool Engineering Ltd.		
	BF	JP-2001-348661	12-18-2001	Kobe Steel, Ltd.		
	BG	JP-7-205362	08-08-1995	Sumitomo Electric Industries, Ltd.		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	CA	International Search Report for PCT/JP03/07866 mailed October 7, 2003.	

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